PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

THE OPENING OF THE FACULTY ROOM IN NASSAU HALL

LIBRARY
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PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

THE OPENING

OF

THE FACULTY ROOM

IN

NASSAU HALL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd, 1906

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The Academic Procession will pass from the University Library to Nassau Hall, through the Fitz Randolph gateway, which will be opened by Miss Marjorie Van Wickle.

OCT 23 1911 :cop.2

ORDER OF EXERCISES
NASSAU HALL

Prayer, - - - - Professor Henry van Dyke

Hymn, — "America"

Presentation of the Bequest of Augustus S. Van Wickle,
on behalf of his family. - Professor John Grier Hibben

Acceptance of the Gift on behalf of the University,
President Woodrow Wilson

Address, - - - - - Ex-President Cleveland

"Old Nassau."

HISTORICAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH NASSAU HALL

In 1753 Mr. Nathaniel Fitz Randolph of Princeton presented to the Trustees of the College of New Jersey the four and one-half acres on which Nassau Hall was built.

The corner-stone of the Hall was laid in July 1754.

At the suggestion of Governor Belcher, the building was named in honor of William of Nassau, Prince of Orange.

George Whitfield preached here in 1763.

In 1776, the letter of the New York merchants breaking their non-importation agreement and inviting the city of Philadelphia to do the same was seized on its way through Princeton and burnt by the undergraduates in front of the Hall.

In the same place in 1774 the students burnt the college steward's store of tea after the manner of the Boston Tea Party.

On the 9th of July 1776, the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed from the steps of Nassau Hall and was greeted with a triple volley of musketry.

In August 1776 the first legislature of New Jersey under the constitution sat in the library room over the front entrance.

In December 1776 the British and Hessians seized the building and occupied it until January 3, 1777, when they were dislodged by the American Artillery, 200 being captured. Upon which occasion the portrait of George II hanging upon the wall was destroyed by a chance cannon-ball.

The building was used as a hospital for American troops and British prisoners until the summer of 1778.

In 1783 the Continental Congress met here for five months. On the 25th of August Washington was formally received and thanked on behalf of the nation for the great services rendered to his country. On October 31, Peter van Berckel the minister plenipotentiary from the Netherlands was received by Congress, and on the same occasion it was announced that the treaty of peace between Great Britain and the United States had been signed.

Here in September 1824 Lafayette received the diploma signed by President Witherspoon in 1790, conferring on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

In September 1836 the funeral of Colonel Aaron Burr took place in this Hall.

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Princeton University.
Opening of the Faculty
room in Nassau Hall.

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